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Get it done, London!

Spring spruce-up. Organizers hope for record crowd for Community Clean-Up

JOHN MATISZ
john.matisz@metronews.ca

Another successful 12 Days of Cleaning will conclude Saturday in what organizers hope is a record-breaking finale event.

The 17th annual Community Clean-Up, which takes place across the Forest City from 9 a.m. to noon and put on by London Clean & Green, could draw up to 10,000 participants.

Although organizers project the three hours will result in the collection of more than 18 tonnes of litter, its impact is very weather-dependent. If gloomy skies prevail, that number could drop substantially.

For those interested, it's as easy as picking up garbage around London and delivering the bags to 10 selected locations across the city. Police will be removing graffiti tags as well, while others are scheduled to plant trees.

"We measure success in two ways," said Jay Standford, director of environmental programs and solid waste with the City of London. "First, the activity that occurs this Friday and Saturday — the 20-Minute Makeover and Community Clean-up — and then the overall importance of people understanding that this time of year is all about helping clean-up."

According to another organizer, Ron Scarfone, the sites that are in need of support the most are Argyle Arena, Springbank Park, as well as Moffatt and Powell. The other seven locations are usually quite busy throughout the entire day.

Standford notes the London Clean & Green team is "very pleased with feedback" so far through the 12 Days of Cleaning project, as 150 people stopped by the Keep Your Drain Clean event on Saturday. Also, 40 to 50 people a day are completing an environmental quiz online.

In the end, as Scarfone mentions and Standford reinforces, the Community Clean-Up's three-hour window is not exclusive.

Besides, cleaning up is cleaning up.

"We say 9 to 12 as an area we're there, but people can go out and clean up whenever they want," Scarfone said.

Meeting sites

- **West 1:** Canada Games Aquatic Centre (Wonderland north of Lawson)
- **West 2:** Springbank Park (west entrance parking lot by Boler Road)
- **Central East:** Hendrix Restaurant Equipment (Dundas & Rectory)
- **North:** Home Depot (Fanshawe & Adelaide)
- **North West:** Moffatt and Powell (Hyde Park North of Sarnia Rd.)
- **South:** South London Community Pool (Bradley & Jalna)
- **Central:** Covent Garden Market (Talbot & King)
- **East:** Argyle Arena (Clarke & Wavell)

Tony Redix, 35, of London, gets prepared for Saturday's city-wide Community Clean-Up event.
JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Greening of the big screen

The Reel Guys look at movies like Wall-E that celebrate the values of Earth Day PAGE 9

Sheer thrill of the cliff hanger

Hugging a rock face 100 metres up is a rush for climber and photographer PAGE 8

Hockey sticks or joysticks?

Sidney Crosby on the 'weird' playoff series to date PAGE 19

1 NEWS

On the web

Tree house under threat

Armed with blind naiveté and supreme determination, a rookie carpenter living out of his car set out to build his first "house." Joel Allen's dream tree house deep in a B.C. forest (and built with no electrical power) is being threatened. Watch at metronews.ca

Going all out for prom

Never mind a text that meekly asks "will u go 2 prom w/me?" Today's high-schoolers are taking a cue from elaborately staged wedding proposals, inviting each other to prom with flash mobs, scavenger hunts, homemade music videos and even airplane banners flying over the beach. Full story and videos at metronews.ca

Mobile news

Good news for New York bats. Researchers have found brown-bat populations are rebounding after millions were killed by the deadly white-nose syndrome. Scan the code for the story.

Social-service agencies rally against Grits' budget

Proposed cuts. Groups ask MPPs to 'show they care' about people living in poverty as voting day nears

ANGELA MULLINS
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Tim Carrie, president of Canadian Auto Workers Local 27, left, and Chuck Lazenby, general manager of the Unity Project, talk Thursday about how proposed social-service cuts will hurt the community. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Leaders of the Unity Project are rallying community support to squash social-service cuts in the provincial budget.

The agency is leading the charge aimed at pressuring local MPPs to dash a variety of proposals, including freezing Ontario Works and disability benefits.

"This is a very serious thing … and we really want to see our representatives come forward and oppose (cuts) and say that they do care about the people who are experiencing poverty in our community," said Chuck Lazenby, the Unity Project's general manager.

"These cuts are not stating (that supporting people is) a value."

The move comes as a Tuesday budget vote looms at Queen's Park. While the timeline for making a difference is short, some hope the movement will result in a coalition to address similar issues in the future.

Cuts included in the Liberals' budget proposal will hit those who can least afford them, supporters said Thursday.

"It's people, it's children that are suffering, and what this government is proposing is only going to make that worse," said Tim Carrie, president of Canadian Auto Workers Local 27.

In lieu of social-service cuts, Carrie suggested higher taxes for people who are wealthy.

"They need to start to pay their fair share," he said. Speaking out on the budget is "just the beginning of a strong fight … coming out of our community here in London."

Quoted

"It's people, it's children that are suffering, and what this government is proposing is only going to make that worse."

Tim Carrie, president of Canadian Auto Workers Local 27, on the budget proposal

The top four

The leading social-service agencies are most concerned about:

- Freezing Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program payments
- 50 per cent cut to support for moving into a home or making repairs
- Capping discretionary health benefits that help people living in poverty pay for dental work and glasses
- Delaying an increase to the Ontario Child Benefit

Riot. Five more charged in Fleming Drive rioting, including one youth

Five more people have been charged as a result of the Fleming Drive riot, including one under the Young Offenders Act.

Brian Nuccitelli, 18, of Port Colborne, faces an unlawful assembly charge, as well as possession of a dangerous weapon and assaulting a police officer.

Those charges stem from his alleged use of a laser pointer on police officers. One officer was injured as a result of a laser pointer being directed at his eyes and continues to receive medical treatment.

The other people charged Thursday face a variety of unlawful assembly and mischief charges: Warren Smith, 21, of London; Miles Kelly, 20, of London; Zach Langlois, 20, of Georgetown; and a 17-year-old alleged young offender.

METRO

Charged

38

The number of people charged in the Fleming Drive riot, for a total of 85 criminal offences. Eighteen people charged were Fanshawe College students.

Education cuts

Catholic school board to cut 127 teaching jobs

Cuts are coming to the London District Catholic School Board for the 2012-13 school year.

The board announced early Thursday that it will cut 127 teaching positions because of declining enrollment.

The board says it estimates a decline of about six per cent in the number of students.

Another concern is austerity measures coming down the line from the Ontario government.

AM980/AM980.CA

Free speech violation?

Protesters demand meeting with Western president

Officials at Western University are promising a "careful review" of a Thursday afternoon protest that saw about 40 people march into president Amit Chakma's office and request a meeting.

Mike Roy said the protest was designed to "put pressure" on the school's administration and ask that they reconsider a decision made earlier this year to ban himself and another Londoner from campus.

Western issued trespass notices to Roy and Anthony Verberckmoes in February after they participated in a pro-Palestinian protest at the University Community Centre. Roy described that protest — aimed at an Israel on Campus club display — as non-confrontational, and considers the university's response a violation of free speech.

But, a Western administrator said, some members of the Israeli club felt intimidated and contacted campus police. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Budget. NDP back off key demand to remove HST from home heating bills

Ontario's New Democrats are backing off one of their key budget demands in the hopes of brokering a deal with the minority Liberals before a looming vote that could topple the government and send voters back to the polls.

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath announced Thursday that she's withdrawing her demand to remove the provincial portion of the HST from home heating bills - one of her party's most cherished policies.

It was clear that Premier Dalton McGuinty "wouldn't go there" even though he needs her party's support to avoid another election, Horwath said.

"It's not easy to say that I don't believe that the government's prepared to make life more affordable for everyday folks by taking the HST off home heating — I think that's the wrong decision," she said.

"I'm hopeful that at some point, Mr. McGuinty will see the light of day and realize that is the right thing to do. It's just real obvious to me that he's not prepared to do that within the next couple of days."

Now it's time for the premier to reciprocate and accept one or more of the NDP's other proposals — namely, hiking taxes for the rich, Horwath said.

The NDP want to introduce a two percentage point surtax on incomes over $500,000, an idea that opinion polls suggest is popular with voters. Even billionaire investor Warren Buffet has advocated for similar reforms in the U.S., saying he's effectively taxed at a lower rate than his secretary.

But it puts McGuinty in an awkward position after vowing not to hike taxes to eliminate a $15.2-billion deficit.

The Conservatives have already said they'll oppose the budget, so McGuinty must woo the New Democrats for his government to survive.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Utilities

Rate hike just in time for summer

The Ontario Energy Board says electricity rates are to rise May 1. The increase will amount to about $3.99 a month for a typical residential consumer.

Prices are rising due to changing supply costs as coal generation declines and is replaced by other sources.

Earth Day. Groups to focus on tree planting, honouring environment

The first Earth Day London celebration could be categorized as less than impressive.

"It was about 30 people gathered in a wind-swept area with a few trees," Steve Sauder, one of the organizers, recalled.

Now, the event routinely draws more than 1,000 people to Watson Street Park for an afternoon filled with environmental lessons and some plain old family fun.

The celebration will mark its 19th year Sunday in the park, found on the Thames' south fork. One of the day's highlights will be planting 1,500 trees and wildlife shrubs along the water, said Sauder, marketing specialist with the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority.

"We're creating a buffer and have been working our way down along the river (with plantings) over the last couple of years," he said. "It's something that all ages can get involved in. The smallest children can help pour a mulch bucket and older people who have a little more strength can do some of the digging."

Other events planned between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. include bird-box building, demonstrations from the Canadian Raptor Conservancy, a draw for a free bicycle and creation of a giant piece of Earth Day art composed of natural elements like pine cones and leaves.

A big part of the celebration, part of a broader Earth Day Canada effort, is about creating and paying tribute to environmental awareness, Sauder said.

"I think the awareness is there, over the years it's definitely grown," he said. "This is a chance to connect with other people who enjoy doing more for the Earth."

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Where it's at

Watson Street Park is east of Wellington Road, just south of the Thames River. Check out cleangreen.london.ca for details about Earth Day London and this weekend's environmental cleanups.

Kitchener Rangers forward Ben Thomson slides a rebound past London Knights goaltender Michael Houser during second-period action in Game 1 of the Ontario Hockey League Western Conference final. The goal made it 2-1 for the Rangers, but the Knights fought back to win in overtime. JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Knights claw back for overtime win

Western Final. London comes from behind to take Game 1, 3-2, over Kitchener at the JLC

JOHN MATISZ
john.matisz@metronews.ca

Overtime goals always seem to come from the most unlikely of sources, don't they?

After a turnover in the neutral zone, Tyler Ferry scored at 1:51 of overtime to vault the London Knights to a 3-2 Game 1 victory over the Kitchener Rangers before 8,172 at the John Labatt Centre Thursday night.

"I saw Vlad (Namestnikov) cut through, Seth (Griffith) made a nice pass to me. I just kind of shot it on net and used the defenceman as a screen," explained Ferry, a 15th round draft choice by London in 2008. "

His wrist-shot from the hashmarks trickled into the goal after bouncing over the shoulder of Rangers goaltender John Gibson.

In a game characterized by the Rangers' inability to produce any kind of momentum, the Knights peppered Gibson with 48 shots, with all but the game-winner coming in regulation.

All game long, London seemed to be one stride ahead of their Midwest Division foes. It was especially noticeable during the dying minutes of the final frame, as the Knights created multiple odd-man rushes.

When asked if his squad was feeling the effects of their seven-game series versus the powerhouse Plymouth Whalers — which ended Tuesday night — Kitchener head coach Steve Spott insisted it was a non-factor.

"Maybe mentally fatigued, but not physically," he said.

Despite recovering from the flu, Knights rookie forward Max Domi produced in Game 1, scoring his first two markers of the post-season.

"He's been snakebitten by the net," London head coach Mark Hunter said of the 16-year-old playmaker. "(In the series versus) the Saginaw Spirit and Windsor Spitfires he had great chances."

Speedy winger Andreas Athanasiou saw action for the first time since Game 1 of the Spirit series, and made the most of it by assisting on Domi's tying goal. His insertion into the lineup came at the cost of Greg McKegg, who is day-to-day with an upper body injury and a question mark heading into Game 2.

Scorers

- **London.** Tyler Ferry, Max Domi (2)
- **Kitchener.** Ben Thomson, Tobias Rieder

Quotable

"If you turn pucks over against the Knights, you're going to pay the price. Hopefully, it's a lesson learned by our group."

Kitchener Rangers head coach Steve Spott

Low attendance figures for Knights' playoff run

If you've noticed a little bit more elbow room at the JLC during this year's playoff run, you're right.

Attendance is down at the House of Green.

During any of the five home games so far this postseason before Thursday night's game, there were between 500 and 1,000 empty seats in the building.

Many of those are unclaimed tickets from season-ticket holders, but some are just unsold seats.

This actually isn't something new at the JLC. Dating back to 2010, there has only been one playoff sellout — hat's one in the past 15 home playoff games.

In the three seasons prior to 2010, the Knights had sold out 13 out of 19 home playoff games.

The colour commentator for Rogers TV, Rick Doyle, said perhaps fans have been spoiled in the past.

"Since the Hunters have taken over, people just expect success," Doyle said.

Doyle also mentions a weak economy and high playoff ticket prices as potential factors keeping fans away. But he says that's not the Knights' fault.

"The prices are set by the OHL prior to the playoffs starting, so I'm not sure if anything can be done from that perspective," he said.

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Phone records place accused in area Stafford was killed

Electronic fingerprint.
Cellphone records of Michael Rafferty take centre stage in murder trial

The trial of a man accused of killing Victoria Stafford is hearing that a call he apparently made to check his voicemail places him in the Mount Forest, Ont., area the night the eight-year-old was killed.

Cellphone records and cell tower signals are the focus today at the trial of Michael Rafferty, 31, who has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder, sexual assault causing bodily harm and kidnapping in Tori's death.

Tori was abducted April 8, 2009, in Woodstock, but police didn't find her remains more than 100 kilometres north near Mount Forest until July 19 that year, after receiving records showing the call through the Mount Forest tower.

Michael Rafferty in a police handout photo. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police had been scouring rural areas north of Guelph for the Grade 3 student's remains for weeks, but the cellphone records prompted them to look near Mount Forest.

Voice call and data records from Rafferty's cellphone show that on April 8, 2009, the phone was in the Guelph area around 5 p.m., then travelled north through Fergus to the Mount Forest area — the route Rafferty is alleged to have taken with Tori in his car.

Little evidence has been heard so far of Rafferty's activities on April 8 before his car was seen at a gas station near the school where Tori was abducted at 3:32 p.m., except that his car was also seen driving past the school that morning.

The records also show dozens of text messages exchanged between Rafferty's ex-girlfriends on the day of the slaying.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kingston Penitentiary to close its doors

A view of the Kingston Penitentiary in October 2010. On Thursday, the federal government announced the closure of Canada's oldest prison, as well as the Leclerc prison north of Montreal as part of a cost-cutting move.
LARS HAGBERG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stats Canada

E.I. numbers drop

Statistics Canada says the number of people receiving regular Employment Insurance benefits fell by 6,700, or 1.2 per cent to 552,800 in February on a seasonally adjusted basis.

The largest declines occurred in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Quebec.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Real estate

Some buyers back bidding war

A new Canadian survey reports that one-quarter of those polled would willingly get into a bidding war when buying a home.

The web-based survey of 1,000 house and condo owners was conducted last month.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Double lung transplant

Helene Campbell suffers setback

Helene Campbell, the Ottawa woman who underwent a double lung transplant in Toronto on April 7, suffered a setback in her recovery.

She began to have problems after being taken off a ventilator last Saturday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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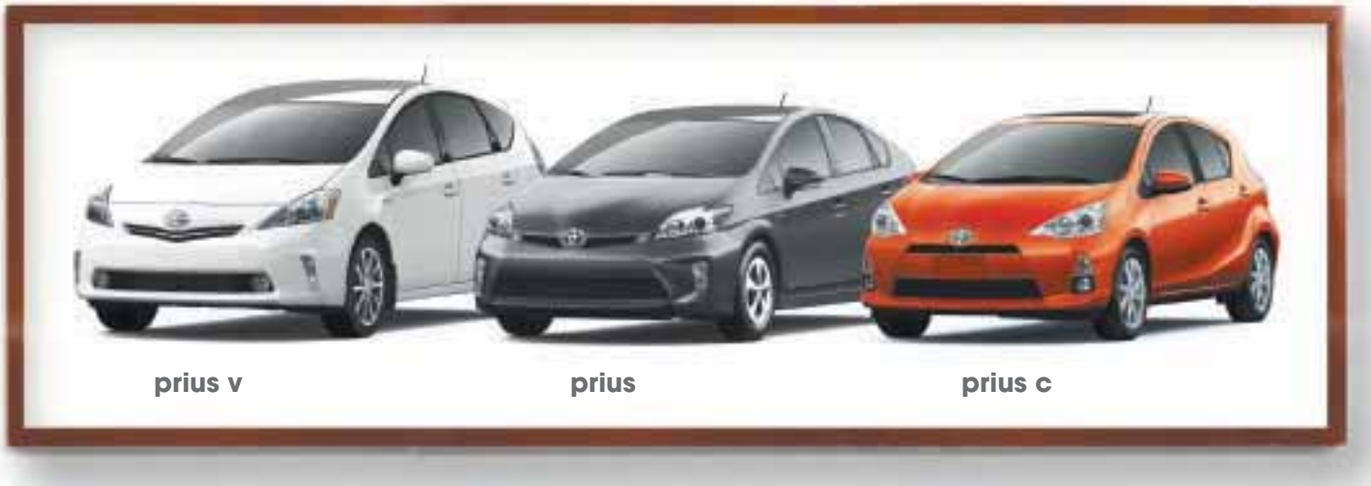

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Capital murder charge may carry death sentence

Fatal shooting. Verna McClain is accused of shooting 28-year-old mother in the parking lot of a pediatric clinic

Attorney Steve Jackson talks to Verna McClain during a court appearance Thursday. DAVID J. PHILLIP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A nurse accused of fatally shooting a new mother and speeding away with the dying woman's infant son in suburban Houston quietly told a judge Thursday that she understood she was facing capital murder charges.

Verna McClain, who investigators said recently suffered a miscarriage and was desperate to find a child, looked down and spoke softly during the brief court appearance. Her bond hearing was delayed until Monday, though the 30-year-old mother of three will remain jailed until then.

McClain is accused of shooting 28-year-old Kala Golden in the parking lot of a suburban Houston pediatric clinic on Tuesday and snatching Golden's 3-day-old son. The infant was found safe hours later with McClain's sister, who told investigators that McClain planned to adopt the boy.

Handcuffed and wearing a pink and white striped prison uniform, McClain told the judge that she understood the charges against her. The judge delayed McClain's bond hearing to give her court-appointed attorneys more time to work on the case.

The capital murder charge carries a potential death sentence.

Authorities said McClain was so desperate to find a child that she went exactly where she knew she could find one: The pediatric clinic where she had taken her three children for checkups.

But when McClain went to the clinic this week, her choice of which child — and mother — to target appeared to have been random.

"There is nothing to indicate this was anything beyond planning further than going to the clinic," Capt. Bruce Zenor of the Montgomery County sheriff's office said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mass murder in Norway.
Killer also had gruesome plans for Prime Minister

Anders Behring Breivik
ERLAND AAS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Confessed mass killer Anders Behring Breivik testified Thursday that he had planned to capture and decapitate former Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland during his shooting massacre on Utoya island.

Breivik said his plan was to film the beheading and post the video on the Internet. Brundtland had already left the Labor Party's youth camp on Utoya when Breivik arrived on July 22, after setting off a bomb in Oslo that killed eight people.

Sixty-nine people, mostly teenagers, were killed on Utoya, where nearly 600 members of the Labour Party's youth wing had gathered for their annual summer retreat.

"The plan was to behead Gro Harlem Brundtland while it was being filmed," Breivik told the court.

The far-right fanatic said he was inspired by al-Qaida's use of decapitation but noted that "beheading is a traditional European death penalty."

"It was meant to be used as a very powerful psychological weapon," he said.

Breivik also testified that he had prepared for his attacks by cutting off contact with the outside world and devoting himself to two computer games — Modern Warfare and World of Warcraft, playing the second one for 16 hours a day.

Brundtland was prime minister for the Labor Party for 10 years. She later headed the World Health Organization.

"Gro Harlem Brundtland has no comment on the information provided by Breivik, nor the court case in general," her adviser Jon Moerland told The Associated Press.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Indecent exposure

Science teacher fired over stint in porn film

A Southern California science teacher has been fired for performing in a pornographic video.

Oxnard School District trustees voted in closed session Wednesday night to fire Stacie Halas, who taught seventh- and eighth-graders.

She had been on paid administrative leave since her appearance on the video surfaced last month. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Epic flight

Slovenian pilot takes eco-friendly tour around the world

A Slovenian pilot has completed an incredible 9,774-kilometre journey around the globe in a fuel-saving ultralight plane.

Matevz Lenarcic, a biologist and conservationist, started flying Jan. 8 from Slovenia.

His route took him to Africa, then to North and South America, onto Australia.

He then flew over Asia, over Mount Everest — the world's highest mountain — across India and finally back home on Thursday.

The Slovenian-made Virus-SW914 ultralight plane can fly 3,999 kilometres.

It can traverse the distance on only 348 litres of fuel according to Lenaricic's calculations.

"The world is not as big and indestructible as it seems. It is worth seeing it in all its diversity," Lenarcic said.

He claims to be the first to fly around the world in an ultralight plane without a co-pilot or any ground support.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shark attack

Surfer killed in Cape Town

A shark killed a surfer off Cape Town Thursday, South African police said.

Police spokesman Andre Traut said the 20-year-old South African was in the water with his brother and a friend at the time of the attack.

Following the attack, the government cancelled a permit that had allowed a research film crew to throw fish and blood into the water to attract sharks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Bugs begone

Starbucks to stop using dye derived from beetles

Starbucks says it will stop using a red dye in its drinks that is derived from crushed bugs.

The Seattle-based coffee chain said Thursday that it made the decision to reformulate its drinks after feedback from consumers.

The company says it will swap out cochineal extract, which is made from the juice of a tiny beetle, and instead use lycopene, a tomato-based extract. Starbucks had used the coloring in its strawberry flavoured mixed drinks and some red-hued snack items.

The company says the items will be reformulated by the end of June.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

International asset

CPP board acquires half of Chilean toll-road operator

The Canada Pension Plan Investment Board is committing $1.14 billion to acquire about half ownership in five major toll roads in Chile, part of its strategy of making long-term investments to support future benefit payments. The rest of the Chilean company will be owned by the Atlantia Group, an Italian toll company.

Grupo Costanera will be another addition to the fund manager's other infrastructure holdings, which were worth $8.6 billion as of Dec. 31.

However, the Chilean investment will represent a very small portion of the $152.8 billion of assets in the CPP Fund as of the end of last year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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Dow Jones: 12,964.1 (-68.65)

Apple planning a smaller iPad?

Tech talk. Rumours of a forthcoming 'iPad Mini' persist after reports that Apple has ordered small screens from Samsung

There's a constantly spinning mill of rumours about Apple products, most of which turn out to be untrue. What's unusual this week is that talk has revived of a smaller iPad model, an idea company founder Steve Jobs derided before he died.

Apple and its suppliers aren't commenting. Rumours of a smaller iPad, or "iPad mini" have percolated ever since the first iPad was launched two years ago. This time around, they're fed by media reports from South Korea, China and Taiwan, saying Apple has ordered Samsung screens that are 7.86 inches measured on the diagonal. That would make for a screen about half the size of the current iPad.

Last year, Amazon figured out how to crack Apple's stranglehold on tablets by making a half-size tablet. The result was the Kindle Fire, pictured.

MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

A smaller tablet would help Apple further its lead in the tablet market. Apple has successfully fended off competitors who have tried to sell tablets in iPad's size range. But last year, Amazon.com figured out how to crack Apple's stranglehold on tablets by making a half-size, no-frills tablet. The result was the Kindle Fire, which sells for $199 -basically, the cost of production. Amazon has sold millions of them.

Apple sells the iPod Touch for $199, but its screen is about a quarter of the size of the Kindle Fire — a big disadvantage for people who want to enjoy books, movies and games. It also sells the older iPad model for $399. It has nothing in between.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Social media

Twitter swears off patent wars

Some high-profile tech sector entrepreneurs are rallying behind a new Twitter policy that will see the micro-blogging service refrain from using patents to launch pre-emptive legal strikes against rivals.

Twitter announced a draft policy it calls the Innovator's Patent Agreement that includes a vow not to sue for patent infringement unless it is defensive and the original developer gives permission.

Along with empowering Twitter's engineering and design staff, the policy is aimed at curbing the wave of patent lawsuits sweeping across the tech sector.

Twitter posted the agreement, to be implemented later this year, on an open-source developers' site soliciting comments from tech companies and says it is encouraging firms to "join the flock."

The policy represents a significant departure from the current state of affairs in the industry, Twitter says. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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HOUSE OF TRUMP CARDS FALLS

THE LIST
Mike Benhaim
Metro

1 **House of Trump cards:** With regard to a glass window that fell from Toronto's new Trump Tower, Donald Jr. calmly stated, "If you know anything about construction, that kind of thing just happens." So, you see folks, there's no reason to overreact. This man knows construction, and if he says that a large shard of glass falling 65 storeys onto one of the busiest streets in Toronto is no biggie, I, for one, feel better.

2 **Sport of kings:** The king of Spain's 13-year-old grandson has literally shot himself in the foot. Felipe Juan Froilan, was spending "quality time" with dad and a 36-calibre shotgun when the accident occurred.

The eldest royal grandchild, well-known to Spanish media as just "Froilan," will henceforth be referred to as "Hijo del Tonto," or in English, "Son of that really dumb guy."

3 **Hello, Goodbye:** Tickets for this summer's Garth Brooks show at the Calgary Stampede sold out in 58 seconds. Fans were outraged to find that some of the 15,322 tickets were available on "scalper" sites.

The stampede's publicity manager, Jennifer Booth, says tickets were available only through online and phone services, with no pre-sales or fan-club purchases, and a limit of six per person, providing yet another example of a job that doesn't require math.

4 **Surprise! No prize:** The Pulitzers were awarded this week for the usual categories like history, biography and non-fiction, but for the first time in 35 years, there was no prize for fiction. The judges did not explain their decision but I'm guessing it's because there's enough fiction in those other categories already.

5 **Race relations:** Mel Gibson is under fire once again for comments made on the set of his film about legendary Jewish hero, Judah Maccabee.

Gibson stated that he resents being reduced to the label of "anti-Semite", when he sees himself as a broader, equal-opportunity racist.

6 **Live from the dead:** Fans were surprised, and a little freaked out when Tupac Shakur hit the stage at the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival last week. A digital effects firm from California added mirrors to a CGI image of the late rap legend, creating the illusion that he was actually performing. Now, Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre want to take him on tour. In fact, they prefer this Tupac as he incurs no travel costs or legal fees, and will not smoke any of their weed.

7 **She's got talent:** CGT judge, Measha Brueggergosman has released a new album on which she strays slightly from her operatic roots. Online sales of her last album dwindled slightly because frankly, her name's too hard to spell, but I think she is gifted enough to join Madonna and Cher in the ranks of the mononymous. So join me in the campaign to rename one of our nation's treasures. Just "Measha." It works.

A holographic image of Tupac Shakur is seen performing during Day 3 of the 2012 Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival at the Empire Polo Field on April 15 in Indio, Calif. KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

Hanging on the edge (of a rock face)

ALEX MESSENGER/SOLENT NEWS & PHOTO AGENCY

Cliff hanger

This is life, up against a wall

MAKAPANSGAT, SOUTH AFRICA. He is teetering on the edge of the cliff face, but British climber John Roberts is safe thanks to his trusty rope. This stunning image by seasoned climbing photographer Alex Messenger sees Roberts, 27, from Manchester, England, standing 100 metres above the African bush below. **METRO**

Aerial shooter

"I try to convey the emotion of climbing in my shots and hope to make the viewer feel a little of what it's like to be up there."

Alex Messenger
Photographer that specializes in climbing

60 seconds

John Roberts

How did you manage to get stuck up there?

I was abseiling from the top of this cliff face in Makapansgat, a paleontological limestone site in South Africa where important prehistoric fossils of man have been discovered. I stopped about halfway down to pose for the camera.

In situations when you slip, should you try to cling onto the rock face?

No, it's better if you just hang there for the moment and let the rope do the work for you.

ANTHONY JOHNSTON/METRO

Metropolitan Panel

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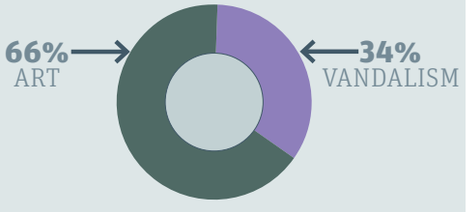
Graffiti — art or vandalism?



Twitter

@bailey_bean: Anyone in #lndont #uwo with a truck/a friend with one, willing to move my bed to my new place on the 25th? I would be forever appreciative.

@themattwright: And with that, I say goodbye to a phenomenal second year at #WesternU! Summer 2012, you're going to be a good one ;)

@Zivai: I don't believe Western taking over London's City Hall is in the best interest of the city. Western is no panacea. #Westernu

@gomez_ak: I've gotten through 3.5 years of exams, so why does this year's seem so much more menacing? #WesternU

@matt71burgess: And that's all she wrote #fanshawe

metro

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Avatar is one of many memorable films that pack an environmental punch. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

The green machine

Earth Day. The Reel Guys take a look at Hollywood's attempts to educate us about the environment

Richard: Mark, the Disney-nature docs are great movies, but I think I'll kick off our look at Earth Day with an animated movie that packs just as much punch as An Inconvenient Truth and is twice as entertaining. Wall-E is a Pixar movie about a garbage-collecting robot on Earth, a planet made unlivable by waste and pollution. It's a funny, poignant masterpiece and perfect for the whole family on April 22.

Mark: Wall-E is certainly a masterpiece. But what about Avatar? There's a film with a strong environmental message. Of course, you can only wonder how big of a carbon footprint is made from a $200 million movie. But the strangest irony, Richard, might be the two of us discussing environmentally friendly flicks when we spend most of our time in darkened rooms!

RC: That's the way I like it; inside looking out. I save a fortune on sun block as well. Continuing our theme, I thought of some good Earth Day thrillers. Everyone remembers Julia Roberts as Erin Brockovich, a legal assistant who uncovers some grave environmental wrongdoing, but how about Frogs? This eco-terror film is about frogs who get revenge on polluters. Or The Day After Tomorrow, Dennis Quaid's ode to climate change?

Synopsis

Each year on Earth Day Disneynature does their part to increase awareness and build an appreciation of our planet's natural environment by releasing documentaries. This year, it's Chimpanzee. These spectacularly photographed movies show us the world in ways we have never seen before. This week the Reel Guys have a look at other movies that celebrate and comment on Earth Day.

MB: Now there's a movie serious environmentalists never bring up. Too exciting, I suppose. But what about the granddaddy of eco-catastrophe, The China Syndrome? Made in 1977, it's as relevant today on the anti-nuke issue as it was then. And it stars Jane Fonda in her smokin'-hot-but-with-a-conscience period. Or Silkwood, also about nuclear contamination, starring Cher in her smokin'-hot-but-you'd-never-know-it-in-those-outfits period.

RC: You know another movie serious environmentalists don't ever watch? Bio-Dome. Back when people went to Paulie Shore movies he made this movie about an environmental experiment, predating Al Gore's global warming message by years. Could Shore be an Earth Day pioneer?

MB: Maybe! He's definitely a pioneer of the word "dude." But when you think about it, environmental themes are everywhere. Aren't zombie films really about sustainability? And aren't cannibal movies about the importance of eating fresh, and locally?

2

SCENE

Scene in brief

Ben Mulroney goes Live! again

Ben Mulroney is set to co-host Live! with Kelly again, this time south of the border. The CTV eTalk co-anchor will join Kelly Ripa on her syndicated morning talk show in New York City on May 4, a month after he shared the stage with her during a taping in Banff, Alta. CTV, which airs Live! with Kelly in Canada, says the Banff episode featuring Mulroney as co-host garnered the show's highest audience ever in Canada, with 685,000 viewers. The guest on the May 4 episode will be Canadian Castle star Nathan Fillion.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Stung by past failures, Hollywood is slowly warming to China's new embrace

Sharability

easy hard

Alison Brie shares her tricks for being Blunt

The Five-Year Engagement. Actress had to 'stalk' Emily Blunt to learn her mannerisms, speaking patterns for the role of Blunt's sister

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Alison Brie, familiar to fans of TV's Community and Mad Men, has been asked to do a lot of things before as an actress, but never to play British. And in the Five-Year Engagement, the request was a bit more specific than just play British: She had to be believable as Emily Blunt's sister. So, to prepare, Brie immersed herself in Blunt, watching everything she'd done, listening to tapes of her speaking, following her around all day — stalking, basically. Anything to nail a part, right?

Did shadowing Emily so much to get the voice right ever get weird?
It looked like I was Single White Female-ing her a lot of the time (laughs). If someone had taken a picture from across the room, it would've been weird — like her just laughing and talking, and me next to her just (staring intently), whispering what she was saying. But it didn't get weird, no. Not with Emily. Sometimes when we'd all be out, she'd have me do it. "She does a great me!" I was like, "Great..."

Were there moments when you'd say something and she'd ask, "Do I really sound like that?"
No, no. I think she'd more correct me, like, "I don't sound like that."

You have a standout scene toasting the happy couple — and weeping uncontrollably. How much of that was improvised?
It was very collaborative. I remember we got to set that day, and (director) Nick Stoller came up and he was like, "You know, we're not totally sold with what we have in the script for this, so whatever ideas you have, we'll all just kind of work on it today." So there's definitely a lot of different versions of that. There's one with me dancing, doing the robot. It always involved me crying and sort of not being able to get through crying. Nick was like, "What other ways... try to make yourself stop crying!" And apparently the way that I make myself stop crying is talking in a creepy, low voice. Good to know about myself!

The supporting cast is full of NBC sitcom actors, like Chris Pratt, Mindy Kaling and Chris Parnell. Plus Emily is married to John Krasinski from The Office. Did you all ever gang up on Jason Segel, since his show is on CBS?
No! No, not at all. I think it was a ploy on his part, he kept us pretty spaced out. I didn't have any scenes with Mindy. They didn't have us all together to gang up on him.

TV updates

Alison Brie has plenty of small screen work, appearing on the critically acclaimed Mad Men, which just launched its fifth season, and Community, which despite its extremely loyal fan-base is in danger of cancellation.

Alison Brie stars in The Five-Year Engagement, which opens next Friday. HANDOUT

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Documentary

Chimpanzee

Directors. Alastair Fothergill, Mark Linfield

Stars. Tim Allen

Led by the slightly oddball casting of Tim Allen as narrator, the Disneynature documentary Chimpanzee aims to entertain young audiences with a watered-down examination of the daily life of little orphaned ape Oscar. While the footage is certainly striking, the softened story is unfortunately less telling than the behind-the-scenes outtakes played over the end credits.

STEVE GOW

Drama

Norwegian Wood

Director. Anh Hung Tran

Stars. Ken'ichi Matsuyama, Rinko Kikuchi, Kiko Mizuhara

Based on Haruki Murakami's 1987 novel and brought to the screen by Oscar nominee Tran Anh Hung, Norwegian Wood is a transcendent look at first love, loss and desire. The film is ripe with melancholy, from the exploration of the grief over a friend's suicide to the beautiful shots of stark landscapes. Occasionally it veers into melodrama, but it has a dreamlike quality.

RICHARD CROUSE

Quoted

"I think that it's the story of people who are going in to experience something they're passionate about, something that is basically changing the face of our culture today... "It's not like this film is an exposé.... I think the greatest thing that's proven by the film is that there's a little geek in everybody.... My mom would be able to go to Comic-Con and find something she liked."

Filmmaker Morgan Spurlock about his new documentary, Comic-Con Episode IV: A Fan's Hope.

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Mustang Drive-In -London 2551 Wilton Grove Rd., 519-644-1160

American Reunion (14A) Fri-Sat 10:45 Sun 8:40 Tue 8:40 Thu 8:40
The Cabin in the Woods (18A) Fri-Sat 11:15 Sun 8:45 Tue 8:45 Thu 8:45
Contraband (14A) Fri-Sat 12:45
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sat 8:45
Lockout (14A) Fri-Sat 12:55 Sun 10:35 Tue 10:35 Thu 10:35
Safe House (14A) Fri-Sat 8:40 Sun 10:45 Tue 10:45 Thu 10:45

Hyland Cinema 240 Wharncliffe Road South, 519-913-0313

The Abyss (STC) Fri 11:10
Norwegian Wood (14A) Fri 4:35-8:40 Sat 3-9 Sun 2:35-7 Mon 1-8:35 Tue 3-9 Wed 2:35-7 Thu 3-9
Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG) Fri 1 Sat 1-7 Sun-Mon 5 Tue 1-7 Wed 5 Thu 1-7
Tomboy (PG) Fri 3-7 Sat 5:25 Sun 1-9:25 Mon 3:25-7 Tue 5:25 Wed 1-9:25 Thu 5:25

Rainbow Cinemas London 355 Wellington St., 519-434-3073

American Reunion (14A) Fri-Thu 3:45-6:55-9:35
The Cabin in the Woods (18A) Fri-Thu 1:25-3:55-7:25-9:50
Chimpanzee (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:30-7:15-9
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Sat 1:15 Mon-Thu 1:15
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-9:45
The Lucky One (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:35-7:20-9:40
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri 1:10-3:50 Sat-Sun 7:10-9:30 Mon-Thu 1:10-3:50-7:10-9:30
The Three Stooges (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:40-7:05-9:15

The Cabin in the Woods. HANDOUT

Western Film Room 340, UCC Building,

Chronicle (14A) Fri-Thu 9
This Means War (14A) Fri-Thu 7
Wellington 8 Cinemas
983 Wellington Rd. S, 519-685-2529
21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:30-6:30-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:10
American Reunion (14A) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:50-7:10-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:50
The Cabin in the Woods (18A) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:20-7:30-9:55 Mon-Thu 7:30-9:55
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:40-6:50-10 Mon-Thu 6:50-10
Lockout (14A) Fri-Thu 7:20-9:40
The Lucky One (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:10-4-7-9:35 No Passes Mon-Thu 7-9:35
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Sun 1-3:45
The Three Stooges (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:10-6:40-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:20
Titanic 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 1:40-7:35 Mon-Thu 7:35

Cineplex Odeon Westmount & VIP Cinemas

755 Wonderland Road South, 519-474-2796

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri 12:30-3-5:30-8:05-10:50 Sat 12:15-3:10-5:40-8:10-10:50 Sun 5-7:40-10:20 Mon 7:40-10:20 Tue 5-7:40-10:20 Wed-Thu 7:40-10:20
American Reunion (14A) Fri-Sat 12:25-2:55-5:25-8-10:40 Sun 2:20-4:55-7:30-10:10 Mon 7:30-10:10 Tue 4:50-7:30-10:10 Wed-Thu 7:30-10:10 Fri 4:50-7:40-10:15 Sat-Sun 1:30-4:40-7:45-10:30 Mon 7:45-10:20 Tue 4:40-7:45-10:25 Wed-Thu 7:45-10:20
Andrew Lloyd Webber's Love Never Dies (STC) Sat 12:45
Breakfast at Tiffany's (STC) Sun 1
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Sat 12:15-2:25-4:35 Sun 2-4:30 Tue 3:40-6
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sun 1-4:10-6:50-7:20-9:55-10:25 Mon 7-8-10:05 Tue 3:50-7-8:15-10:05 Wed-Thu 7-8-10:05 Fri 4-7:15-10:35 Sat-Sun 12:35-3:40-6:45-10:05 Mon 6:45-10 Tue 3:40-6:45-10:05 Wed-Thu 6:45-10
The Lucky One (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45 No Passes Sun 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 No Passes Mon 7:50-10:25 No Passes Tue 5:10-7:50-10:25 No Passes Wed-Thu 7:50-10:25 No Passes Fri 4:20-6:45-9:40 No Passes Sat-Sun 1-4:10-7:15-9:40 No Passes Mon 7:15-9:40 No Passes Tue 4:10-7:15-9:40 No Passes Wed-Thu 7:15-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri 12:20-2:45-5:15-7:40-10:15 Sat 2:45-5:15-7:40-10:15 Sun 1:40-4:20-7:10-9:45 Mon 6:50-9:30 Tue 4:20-6:50-9:30 Wed-Thu 6:50-9:30
The Three Stooges (PG) Fri-Sat 12:50-3:05-5:20-7:50-10:10 Sun 12:50-3:05-5:20-7:50-10:05 Mon 7:35-9:55 Tue 5:30-8-10:15 Wed-Thu 7:35-9:55 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Titanic 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-4:45-8:45 Mon 8:30 Tue 4-8:30 Wed-Thu 8:30

SilverCity London 1680 Richmond St, 519-673-4125

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Sat 12:10-2:50-5:30-8:10-10:50 Sun-Mon 1:15-4-7:10-9:55 Tue 1:15-4-7:10-10:10 Wed 1:15-4-7:10-9:55 Thu 1:15-4-7:10-10:10
American Reunion (14A) Fri-Sat 12:05-2:40-5:15-8-10:55 Sun 1:20-4:10-7:30-10:05 Mon 1:20-4:10-7:25-10 Tue 1:20-4:10-7:25-10:15 Wed-Thu 1:20-4:10-7:25-10
Babe (PG) Sat 11
The Cabin in the Woods (18A) Fri-Sat 12:55-3:15-5:40-8:05-10:30 Sun 12:55-3:15-5:40-8:05-10:25 Mon-Thu 1:50-4:20-6:55-9:25
Chimpanzee (G) No Passes Fri 11:55-2:05-4:15-6:25-8:35-10:40 No Passes Sat 11:15-1:25-3:35-5:40-7:55-10:05 No Passes Sun 1-3:05-5:15-7:25-9:35 No Passes Mon-Tue 1:05-3:10-5:20-7:30-9:40 No Passes Wed 3:10-5:20-7:30-9:40 No Passes Thu 1:05-3:10-5:20-7:30-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:05-3:30-5:35-7:50 Mon-Thu 1:20-3:20-5:20-7:20
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sat 12:25-3:40-7-10 Sun 12:40-3:40-7-10 Mon-Thu 12:55-3:55-7-10 Fri-Sat 10:25 Sun 10:20 Mon-Thu 9:30
Lockout (14A) Fri 2-4:40-7:35-10:10 Sat 1:15-3:45-6:05-8:35-11 Sun 2-4:40-7:40-10:10 Mon-Wed 2-4:40-7:15-9:50 Thu 2-4:40-9:50
The Lucky One (PG) No Passes Fri-Sat 12:45-3:15-5:45-8:15-10:45 No Passes Sun 12:45-4:25-6:55-9:45 No Passes Mon 1:40-4:30-7:15-9:45 No Passes Tue 1:40-4:30-7:15-10:05 No Passes Wed 4:30-7:15-9:45 No Passes Thu 1:40-4:30-7:15-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Sat 12-2:35-5:10-7:45-10:20 Sun-Mon 1:25-4:05-6:50-9:40 Tue 1:25-4:05-6:50-9:45 Wed-Thu 1:25-4:05-6:50-9:40
One Man, Two Guvnors - Encore Presentation (STC) Thu 6:45
The Three Stooges (PG) Fri 12:25-3-5:25-7:55-10:15 Sat 11:30-2-4:40-7:20-9:55 Sun 12:35-3:10-5:25-7:55-10:15 Mon-Thu 2-4:35-7:05-9:35
Titanic: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-4:30-8:30 Mon-Thu 1-5-9
Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Sat 12:50-3-5:45-8:20-10:35 Sun 12:50-3-5:45-8:20-10:30 Mon 1:10-3:20-5:30-7:40-9:50 Tue 1:10-3:20-5:30-7:40-9:55 Wed-Thu 1:10-3:20-5:30-7:40-9:50

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Is the bodyguard the real father to Blanket?

Michael Jackson's former bodyguard, Matt Fiddes, claims the late singer's youngest child is actually his biological son — and he's willing to prove it.

Fiddes says Jackson even told him the truth after baby Blanket was born.

"I sat there and asked the question, 'Is Blanket my child?'" Fiddes tells the Daily Star. "He said, 'He's my child, Matt, but I used your sperm to produce him.'"

Standing in his way, though, is Michael's mother, Katherine Jackson, who has sole custody of the child.

"Katherine's worried we will come after the estate and will tell the kids the truth," Fiddes says. "But to me the truth is the big issue, and that's why I want to take it further. I'm a self-made man, I don't want or need their money. All I want is access if he's my child, to take him out, and spend some time together."

A romantic getaway for Brad and Angie

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie know how to celebrate a happy occasion. The newly engaged couple reportedly packed up their family and took a private jet to Ecuador, then a luxury yacht to the Galapagos Islands, where they're vacationing at the Royal Palm Hotel, according to People magazine.

"We were informed that they arrived at the airport in Baltra yesterday," a source says. "Then they made their way over to a villa in the Galapagos Islands." Pitt apparently popped the question during Christmas after spending a year working on the design of the engagement ring.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Vanessa Lachey on pregnancy, Nick

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Vanessa Lachey is a very dutiful pregnant woman, saying she's "only gotten better" as she's entered her second trimester.

Really? She doesn't miss, say, scotch?

"Honestly, when people have drinks around me, the smell makes me want to vomit. I haven't even missed coffee too much. I feel like you are giving up these things for a great reason," she told us about her pregnancy while promoting Take a Load Off day on behalf of P&G Future Friendly and Tide Coldwater, which is encouraging the public to only wash their clothing in cold water this Earth Day to save on energy costs.

However, this very pregnant lady called shenanigans on Mrs. Lachey, as, come on, there has to be one complaint. (Vomiting? Swollen ankles? Give us something here, Vanessa!). And only after a little badgering from yours truly did she fess up to one complaint.

"Fatigue hit me hard," she finally admitted. "Sometimes I'll hit the couch for two or three hours and feel like I have to apologize to Nick, like: 'I'm sorry I'm so lazy!'"

Vanessa Lachey is a better pregnant lady than I. Two hours on the couch is my exercise for the day — but it only counts as exercise if I keep my eyes open the entire time.

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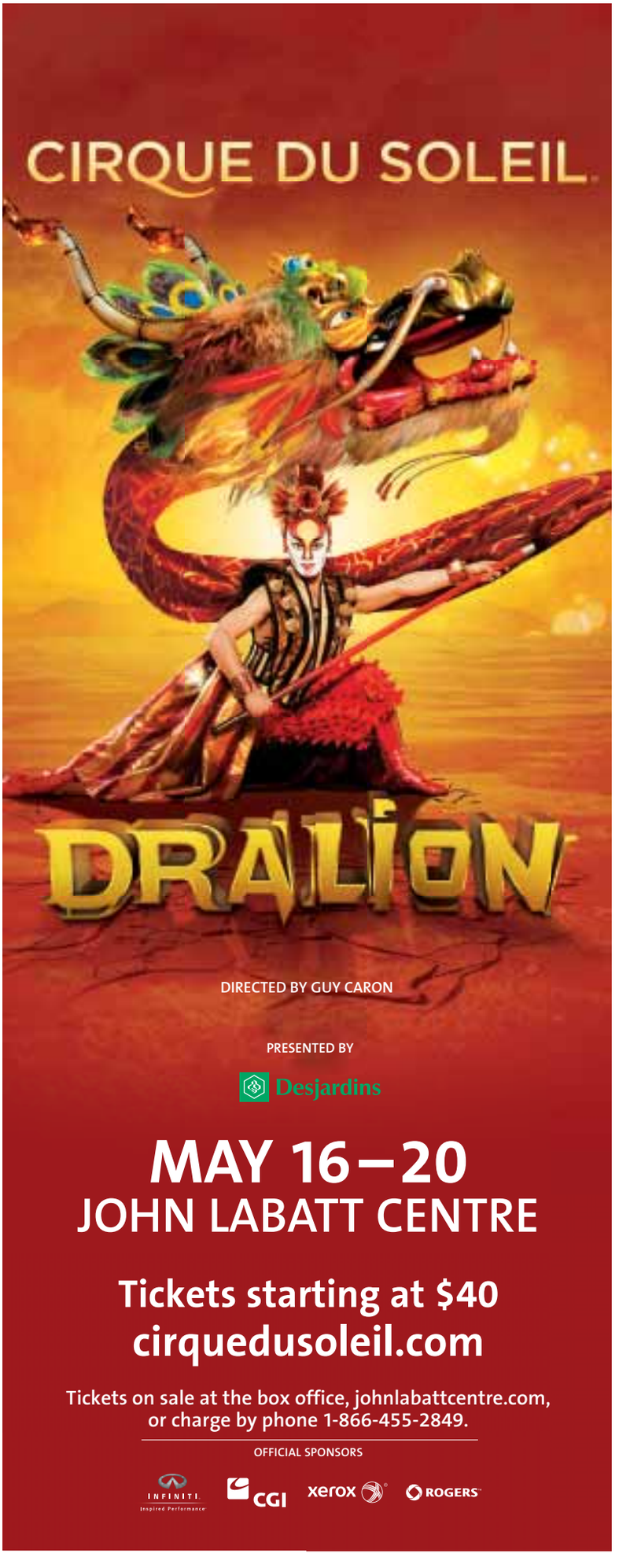

KEEN BEING GREEN

SHOPPING CHOICES ARE A GOOD WAY TO SEND A MESSAGE

Pro-sumers are the new environmentally friendly consumer, says Keith Treffry, director of communications, Earth Day Canada.

Treffry defines a "pro-sumer" as someone who is environmentally proactive and aware when they shop.

"The goal is to make informed decisions and to purchase items that have the least impact on the environment — if a purchase is made at all."

Here are the types of questions prosumers ask when weighing their buying decisions.

• Do I need this or just want it? "Err more on the side of really needing things instead of just wanting things," says Treffry.

• Can I make do with what I already have at home? While resisting peer pressure can be tough, try not to be pressured into buying the latest product. It's likely that by the time you buy it, a newer, slightly modified version will be out.

• How will this purchase impact the environment? One big consideration is packaging. Avoid overpackaged goods or leave packaging behind to send a message to the retailer and manufacturer.

ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

• How green is the product in terms of its manufacture? Do some research and find out what the reputation of the manufacturer is in terms of environmental record and corporate social responsibility.

• Once you are finished with the product, how long will it take for it to be reintegrated into the Earth, or is that even possible?

Remember that recycling should be the last resort. First, think about reducing and then reusing.

WHAT YOU DON'T BUY ALSO COUNTS

The consumer products that Keith Treffrey at Earth Day Canada doesn't buy sends just as big a message as what he does buy.

• Has a small, high-efficiency air conditioner, but relies most on natural cooling methods in the summer — shutting blinds and curtains during the day and opening windows at night.

• Bought a push mower instead of gas- or electric-powered.

• Shares tools and ladders with neighbours — "rather than each one of us buying our own."

• Shares a car with his ex-wife (whoever has the kids gets the car).

• He doesn't drive to work — bikes all year round.

REMINDER!
20 minute London Business makeover starts today at 2pm!

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9 am - noon
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WHO'S LAUGHING NOW

OILSEED WORKS WINS 2011 EARTH DAY SMALL BUSINESS AWARD

They all laughed at Christopher Columbus, goes the song. Greg Herriott got the same reaction in the early '90s when he first tried peddling hemp as food.

It's because of the cannabis connection, explains Herriott, whose company, Oilseed Works, won the Earth Day Canada 2011 Small Business Award.

Initially, Herriott wasn't interested in creating a company to sell hemp. He only wanted to create a marketing campaign to showcase his graphic design firm's abilities. When a close friend living in Oregon sent him info about industrial hempseed oil, he recognized its promotional aspects immediately.

But further research revealed so many environmental and health benefits that Herriott thought he might be on to something. The "ad campaign" generated such a positive response, he filed trademark applications, tried cold-pressing the hempseed oil, and shopped it around.

That's when some people laughed, though others were intrigued, Herriott says. Hemp oil's health benefits — an 82 per cent concentrate of essential fatty acids including omega-3 and naturally occurring antioxidants — were virtually unknown.

Herriott and his wife eventually purchased a 50-acre farm north of Barrie, Ont., and launched Oilseed Works (hempola.com), which creates products made from non-genetically modified oilseeds.

That same year, 1999, they developed a line of salad dressings, working with Daniel & Daniel, and experimented with turning hemp into flour for baking. A byproduct of the oil is a pellet-formed seed cake, which can be turned into dense 40 per cent protein flour, ideal for heavy breads. Being gluten free, it's also suitable for wheat allergies.

Hemp flour and protein powder were catching on and others started to produce it. Since flour couldn't be made without cold-pressing oil, it left the Herriotts with an oil overstock. They knew from research, though, that biodiesel could be made from hemp. Produced in 100-litre batches, the fuel ran all the farm's machinery.

The bigger environmental potential prompted the Herriotts to create Flour Power, a method of growing hemp and converting it to flour and carbon neutral biofuel.

Generating interest in Ontario is slow going, but they figure it will eventually catch on. "Especially in developing nations," he adds, "where the benefits would be vast."

– Alex Newman

ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

MIRACLE FOOD

Inexpensive to cultivate and drought tolerant, hemp is ideal for poor arid climates.

- 1,000 acres of hemp yields 300 tonnes of flour or enough bread to provide 2,000 calories per day to nearly 2,000 people.
- It also yields 130,000 litres of oil — eight times what is required to grow the new crop.
- It doesn't usually require irrigation or conventional fertilizers, leaves nutrients behind in the field, and yields two to three harvests per year.

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SMART WATER CHOICE HELPS THE PLANET

DROP THOSE DISPOSABLE WATER BOTTLES FOR GOOD

Making a green resolution this Earth Day? How about giving up disposable water bottles for good? Not only will your wallet thank you, but using fewer water bottles also does the Earth good.

Start to finish, there are several environmental-related issues related to these disposables, notes Jed Goldberg, president of Toronto-based Earth Day Canada.

"On the environmental side, the bottles themselves are made from oil so there's an issue regarding fossil fuel use," says Goldberg.

"About two-thirds of bottled water comes from some kind of stream or river and the extraction of that uses a tremendous amount of energy and then the transportation of it."

The industry also uses an estimated three litres of water to produce one litre of bottled water, and there is a lot of energy that goes into the processing of the water, adds Jode Roberts, spokesperson for the Vancouver-based David Suzuki Foundation.

– Astrid Van Den Broek

BY THE NUMBERS

- The Canadian Bottled Water Association notes that bottled water packaging accounts for 40 per cent of all plastic beverage container packaging.
- The plastic required to create all the water bottles used by Canadians each year weighs more than 1,300 empty Boeing 747 airplanes.
- Energy used to make them is enough to power 190,000 homes.

THE GOOD NEWS

- Canadians are drinking less bottled water. Statistics Canada reports that in 2009, 24 per cent of households drank bottled water as their primary source of water. That was down 30 per cent from 2007.

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3 LIFE

Superfood

Tamarind

Tamarind pulp is eaten to promote good digestion and is a hood source of fibre. It contains high levels of vitamin C for a strong immune system, helping ward off colds and suppressing fever.

The fruit pulp is also a great source of antioxidants, a natural defence against cancer.

Further more, it's a great way of getting more potassium and magnesium in your system.

ROMINA MCGUINESS/ METRO WORLD NEWS

On the web

Cook fiddleheads properly to avoid illness: Health Canada

Liquid Assets

What's beef without the perfect wine?

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
peterrockwell@eastlink.ca

Hamburgers seem to be making a comeback, and I'm not talking about the fast food variety.

The gourmet burger scene is red hot with the population of ultra premium joints exploding across the country.

What differentiates them from the average patty flipper is the originality of their output (Kobe beef anyone?) and the, ahem, higher prices.

My home versions are a tad more pedestrian. Even I can make a decent attempt from scratch, and the surprisingly pleasant weather has got me firing up the barbecue earlier than usual.

Some might argue that wasting anything above a simple table wine on a hamburger is just shy of sacrilegious. With most of us lathering our meat with cheese and a cornucopia of condiments; the flavour profile of a standard backyard creation is anything but typical.

A mid-priced merlot is a classic grilling mate with California's Woodbridge

2010 Merlot ($12.95 - $14.99) a ripe, relaxed red offering up plum and black berry fruit with soft tannins that will prove accommodating no matter what you put between your buns. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

This recipe makes six servings. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Fast-food-inspired beef bites for all tastes

Cheeseburger Mini Meat Loaves. Kids will love the flavour and adults will love how quickly they can be prepared for dinner

The fast-food flavours of this recipe will whet any kid's palate, and adults will appreciate how fast the mini loaves cook compared to regular meat loaf.

For a wholesome meal that is ready when you are, make them ahead and freeze some mini meat loaves.

Wrap each cooled meat loaf separately in plastic wrap or foil, then freeze for up to three months.

When you're ready to serve then, thaw the meat and heat them in the microwave in just minutes.

1. In bowl, combine beef, egg, 125 ml (1/2 cup) of the cheese, onion, breadcrumbs, relish, mustard, salt and pepper. Mix lightly but thoroughly to blend.

2. Lightly spray 12 muffin or custard cups with cooking spray. Divide beef mixture among cups; make indentation in centre of each with the back of a spoon.

3. Fill each with ketchup, dividing amount evenly among cups. Sprinkle each with remaining cheese, dividing equally.

4. Bake in a 190 C (375 F) oven for 25 to 30 minutes or until a digital rapid-read thermometer inserted into meat portion of each reads 71 C (160 F).

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ CANADA BEEF, BEEFINFO.ORG/ THIS RECIPE WAS ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS, FOR METRO ENGLISH CANADA. EMILY IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA

Ingredients

- 750 g (1 1/2 lb) extra lean or lean ground round, chuck or sirloin
- 1 egg, beaten
- 250 ml (1 cup) shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 small finely shredded onion
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) dry breadcrumbs
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) each burger relish and prepared mustard
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) each salt and pepper
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) ketchup

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Canadian athletics

Bobsled champ among hall-of-fame inductees

Pierre Lueders, the Olympic bobsled champion who drove Canada into the world's elite in the sport, joins eight others who will be inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame later this year.

Hockey player Scott Niedermayer, speedskater Jeremy Wotherspoon, soccer player Charmaine Hooper, rower Derek Porter and the figure skating pair of Jamie Sale and David Pelletier are the athletes joining Lueders in the class of 2012.

The late Daryl (Doc) Seaman, an owner of the Calgary Flames, and Marion Lay, an athlete-turned-advocate, join them as builders.

Their induction ceremony will be Oct. 18.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

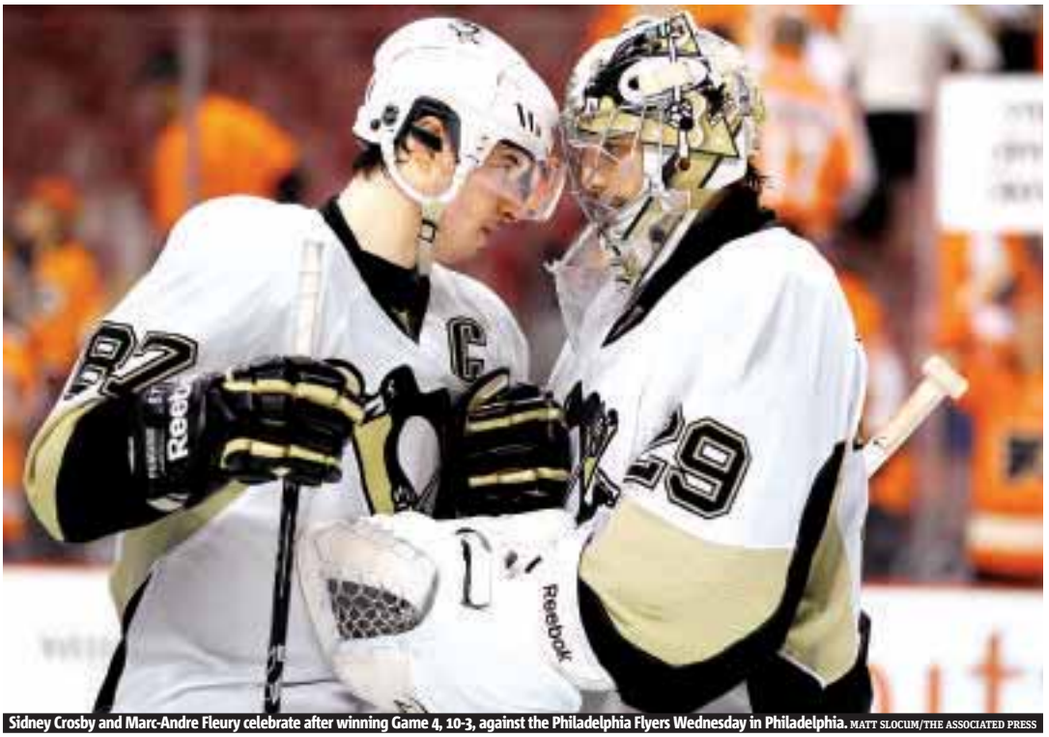
Pierre Lueders at a news conference Thursday in Calgary. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL

Luck to be Colts No. 1 pick: Source

A person with direct knowledge of the situation said Thursday the Colts have notified Andrew Luck that they plan to take the Stanford quarterback with the No. 1 pick in next week's NFL draft, barring some unforeseen event between now and then. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team has not publicly disclosed its plan.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Sidney Crosby and Marc-Andre Fleury celebrate after winning Game 4, 10-3, against the Philadelphia Flyers Wednesday in Philadelphia. MATT SLOCUM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pens and Flyers search for normalcy

NHL. Wild series has included Sidney Crosby dropping his gloves and a 10-3 blowout

Sidney Crosby keeps waiting for the madness to stop. Keeps expecting the law of averages to kick in. Keeps wondering when the series between the Flyers and the Penguins will start to resemble something close to playoff hockey.

And the games pass, and the goals and the fights and the penalties and the suspensions pile up, and the series continues to look like something played with joysticks, not hockey sticks.

"I think it's all kind of crossed our mind and probably a lot of other people's too," Crosby said. "You see that happen maybe once and you kind of think, 'Oh, that's a weird game' and then in four games it's surprising but we've got to find ways to adjust and ways to win."

The Penguins finally found a way in Game 4, staving off elimination with a resounding 10-3 victory that silenced — at least for a night — critics who wondered if Pittsburgh was going to even bother showing up.

Yet for all the frustration released in 60 minutes of largely brilliant hockey, the Penguins are well aware it will mean little if they can't build on it in Game 5 on Friday night.

"The way we looked at it, it didn't matter if it was 2-1 or 10-3," defenceman Brooks Orpik said. "It's still only one win. You don't get any extra points for beating them by seven goals. We've dug ourselves a big hole and we just have to chip away at it, little by little here."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Comebacks

- The Flyers know what it's like to be down 3-0 in a series to win.
- They did it two years ago in the Eastern Conference semifinals against Boston.

4 SPORTS

Quoted

"When our kids see this beautiful game where the idea is to injure someone, or to escalate the level of conflict every time the play stops, it's just not the way we raise our children."

Governor General David Johnston, who said Thursday that violence during the NHL playoffs is anti-Canadian and sets a worrisome example for children aspiring to be hockey players.

On the web

Hall of famer Larry Brown is dusting off his clipboard to take another kick at the coaching can. The 72-year-old was hired Thursday at SMU, a struggling NCAA basketball program that is headed to the Big East after next season. Scan the code for the story.

Uncharted water for Wings

Nashville's Pekka Rinne prepares to make a save on Red Wings forward Pavel Datsyuk on Tuesday at Joe Louis Arena. GREGORY SHAMUS/GETTY IMAGES

Looking for a breakthrough

Solving goalie Pekka Rinne will be key for Detroit to stay alive.

- **The Red Wings have outshot** Nashville in all but one game, and they won that game despite just 17 shots.
- **Rinne has made at least 35 saves** in Nashville's three wins, becoming just the eighth goalie in the past 24 playoffs to post three games with 35 saves or more against the Red Wings.

NHL. Detroit faces earliest elimination since 2006 with captain Lidstrom's future undecided

The Detroit Red Wings have enough post-season experience to know any comeback starts with one win in a series where the first three games were decided by one goal.

The Red Wings are facing their earliest elimination from the playoffs since 2006. Edmonton sent Detroit home after six games; Nashville is trying to do it in five.

The Predators will look to advance for a second straight year when they host the Red Wings on Friday night. A loss could be Detroit captain Nicklas Lidstrom's final game should the defenceman decide to call it quits this summer.

"It's not time to get too frustrated," Detroit centre Valtteri Filppula said Thursday.

These are the Red Wings after all, the team with the longest post-season streak in North American major professional sports at 21 seasons. This is the franchise with four Stanley Cups, six Western Conference titles and 32 series victories in that stretch.

Detroit goaltender Jimmy Howard said the most important thing is to "outwill" the Predators.

"Our backs are against the wall," Howard said. "We all know the circumstances if we lose we start our summer. I don't think anybody wants that in this room."

Head coach Mike Babcock wants his Red Wings to play just as they did Game 4 on Tuesday night despite a 3-1 loss. He said the exceptions are the mistakes in their own zone and off the rush. He sees the Predators making lots of the same mistakes only to see goalie Pekka Rinne cover up with the save.

"We just have to stay the course, I believe," Babcock said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"I think I've learned from other years. I try to push that aside and just go out and try to play a real solid game and come out with a win."

Detroit defenceman Nicklas Lidstrom on the possibility of Game 5 being his last game.

NBA. League sees no future for shorter schedule

The shorter NBA season is on the way out.

Though the league says ratings are up and attendance will be about the same as last season, deputy commissioner Adam Silver sees no future for a 66-game schedule.

"If you cut the season shorter, we cut our revenues significantly as well. Players would make less, so no, and I think it's not optimal to play a condensed season in this fashion," he said Thursday.

"I think both we and the players' union recognized that going in, but it was a compromise on both our parts to maximize the amount of salary players would get this season and to have as authentic a season as possible."

The normal 82-game season wasn't possible when owners and players couldn't agree to a new collective bargaining agreement. The sides agreed to fit in 66 games starting on Christmas, each team playing about two extra games a month. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Injuries not an issue?

NBA President Joel Litvin said there were actually fewer injuries to top players — 35 this season for players who were all-stars in the previous two years, down from 43 last season.

NHL

Referee comments cost Quenneville

The NHL fined Chicago Blackhawks coach Joel Quenneville $10,000 on Thursday for criticizing officials for not penalizing Phoenix forward Raffi Torres' late hit on Marian Hossa. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Baseball

Minor-leaguers banned for PEDs

St. Louis Cardinals minor-league pitcher Jose Pasen and Miami Marlins minor-league infielder Jaime Ortiz were given 50-game bans Thursday for testing positive for performance-enhancing drugs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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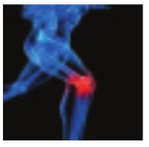

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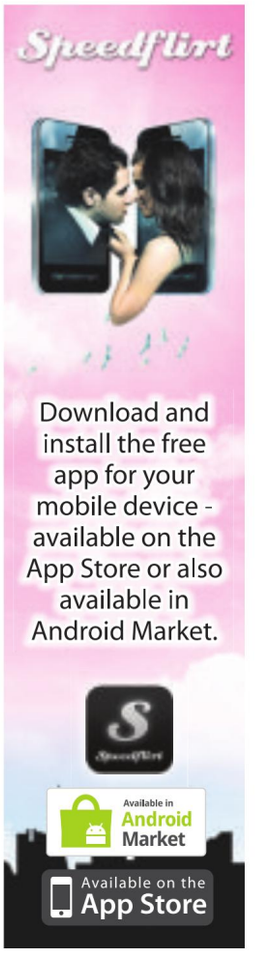
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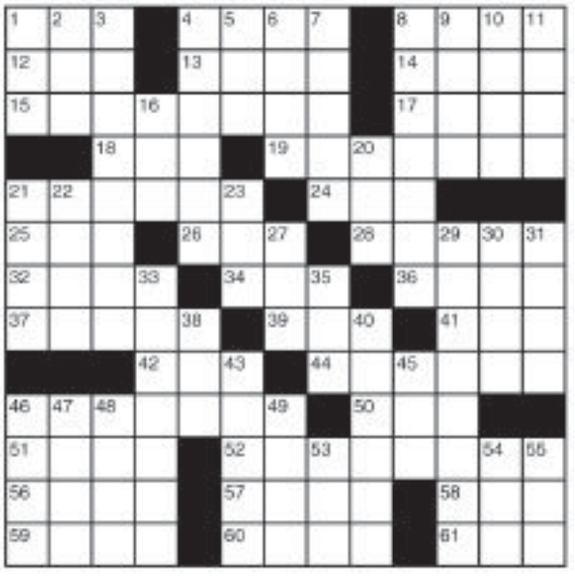
Crossword

Across

1 Tummy muscles
4 Not up yet
8 Conceal in the hand
12 Attack dog's command
13 Approach
14 Largest of the seven
15 "The Departed" director
17 Gets stuck
18 Tier
19 Convict's dreams
21 Pele's game
24 Bottom line
25 Blond shade
26 Bad hairpiece
28 Turkish official
32 Mirth
34 "1 vs. 100" group
36 Wound cover
37 Heart line?
39 Homer's interjection
41 Raw rock
42 With it
44 Keg
46 Additionally
50 Stannum
51 Oil acronym
52 Venomous arachnid
56 Mrs. Zeus
57 Color quality
58 Cagers' grp.
59 Authentic
60 Due
61 Show-biz job

Down

1 Balaam's mount
2 Pen name
3 Really hot day
4 Question, on "Jeopardy!"
5 Quilters' get-together
6 Relaxation
7 Gown
8 Sleepover raiments
9 Now, in a memo
10 Rickey flavor
11 Sunday service
16 Sinbad's bird
20 Golfer's target
21 "The Forsyte —"
22 Scandinavian city
23 Pirates' quaff
27 Pantheon member
29 Disdainful treatment
30 Aesopian also-ran
31 First victim
33 Moral
35 Go up and down
38 Succor
40 Odium
43 Trattoria sauce
45 Wardrobe malfunction
46 Physicist Niels
47 Duel tool
48 Antitoxins
49 Garbage barge
53 Indivisible
54 Sapporo sash
55 Gripe repeatedly



Sudoku

		7				6		
	2	4	7		5	8	1	
8	6						4	5
			3	1	9			
				2				
			8	4	6			
7	1						8	9
	4	6	9		2	3	7	
		9				2		

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

1	3	5	4	9	2	8	6	7
8	9	4	3	6	7	5	2	1
2	7	6	1	8	5	4	9	3
9	2	8	6	1	4	7	3	5
3	6	7	9	2	8	6	1	4
5	4	1	5	7	3	9	8	2
4	1	2	8	5	6	3	7	9
7	8	3	2	4	9	1	5	6
6	5	9	7	3	1	2	4	8

Yesterday's Crossword

Cryptoquip

How to play
This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

WN CKT NWLQOC IGKS TS RKZQ BNEQA-PWLLQA IBLPWQR, KLQ IKTOP RBC EGBE CKT ZWLIQ ZWLER.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FLICK ABOUT A GIFTED GECKO WHO GROWS UP TO BE A WHIZ-BANG CARPENTER: "THE LIZARD OF SAWS."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals Y

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Today 22°/2° Cloudy
Saturday 9°/0° Variable
The Weather Network Download WeatherEye to your smartphone.
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Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. With mind planet Mercury in your sign forming a less than helpful link to your ruler Mars, there's a danger you'll miss something important.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. You need to plan ahead and know what you intend to do. Then and only then should you take action.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. Financial matters will generally go well today but that is not an invitation to take unnecessary risks.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. Someone whose power far exceeds your own will make life difficult for you today. If you stay calm and refuse to be intimidated, you'll be OK.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Just because someone is not very good at expressing him or herself does not mean he or she has nothing to say. Bear that in mind today.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. Today's Mars-Mercury link suggests what you think is going on bears no relation to what is really going on.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. You can't take the credit when things go right but deny it's your fault when things go wrong.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. It's quite likely that someone is trying to confuse you by feeding you information that points you in several directions at once.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Like it or not, it is now your responsibility to deal with a situation that everyone else has tried to resolve but failed.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. No amount of reasoned argument will get you to change your point of view. Let friends know that.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. It's unlikely you'll see eye-to-eye with people in authority today. Don't start a war over everything you know.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. There is something going on but you can't put your finger on what it is. Try not to chase it so hard. It'll come to you. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption Contest

"Note to my groomer: Stop using Axe shower gel"
Marion
KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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metro
News worth sharing.

LOOK AGAIN SPOT THE 10 DIFFERENCES IN THESE TWO IMAGES.

Madrid, Spain – Who needs a ship when you've got a Cruze? That's right; the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze is stealing all the attention, even when parked. And with best-in-class safety and best-in-class highway fuel efficiency, it sure looks like the best way to travel.

1. Changed colour of licence plate right side of image 2. Removed satellite dish above the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze 3. Changed sign colour above the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze 4. Added sign detail to restaurant banner 5. Added bumper to boat above the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze 6. Removed shutter top left of image 7. Added numbers to the boat left of image 8. Changed colour of canvas left of image 9. Changed "LA" to "AL" on banner above the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze 10. Extended bars on window above the 2012 Chevrolet Cruze

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